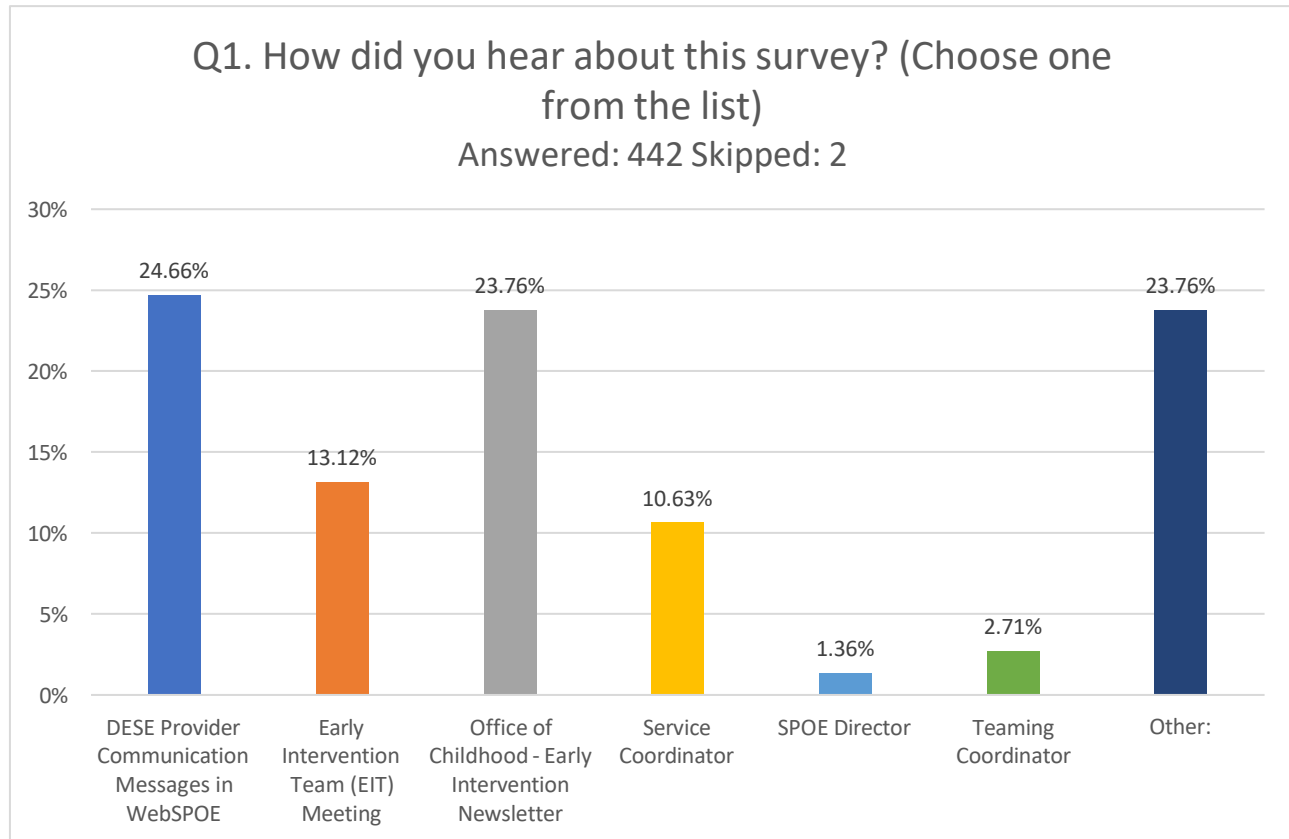
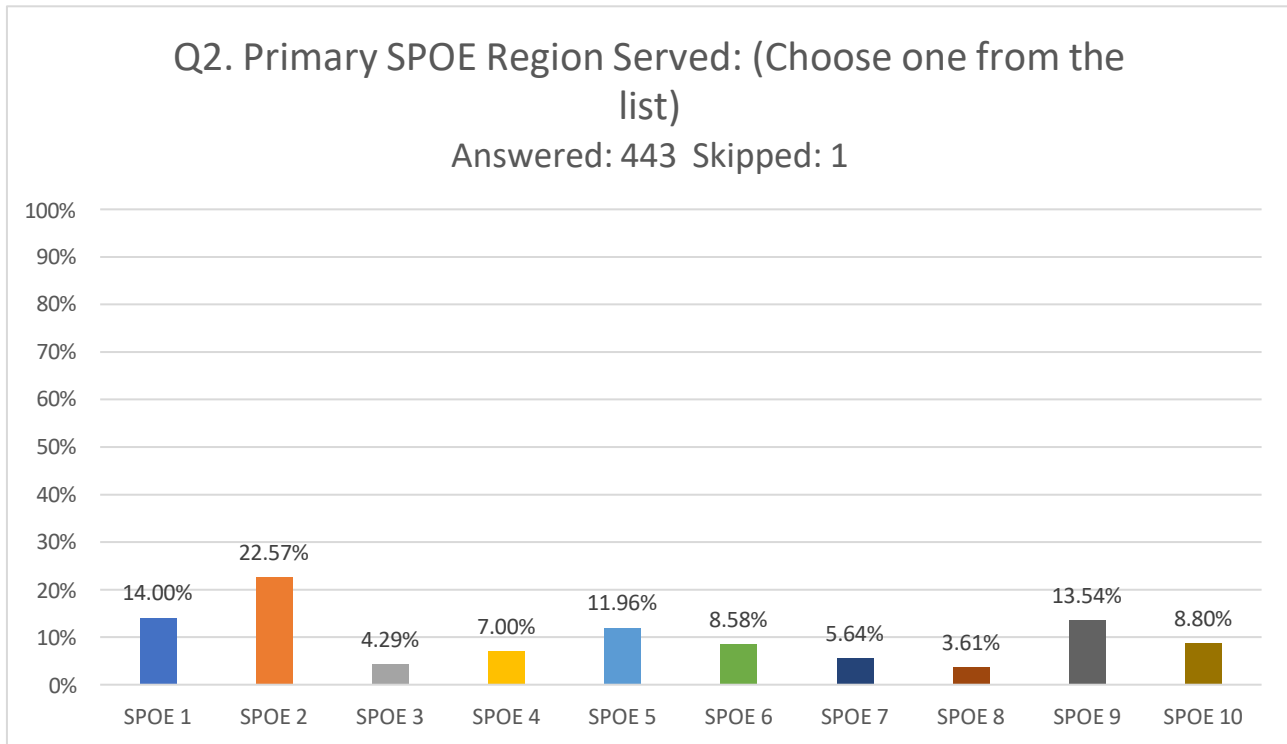


First Steps FY2025 Annual Provider Survey Report

The FY2025 Annual Provider Survey opened on October 15, 2024 and closed on November 15, 2024. The survey was open to all provider types regardless of EIT status. All providers were asked to complete one survey per provider based upon primary region served.



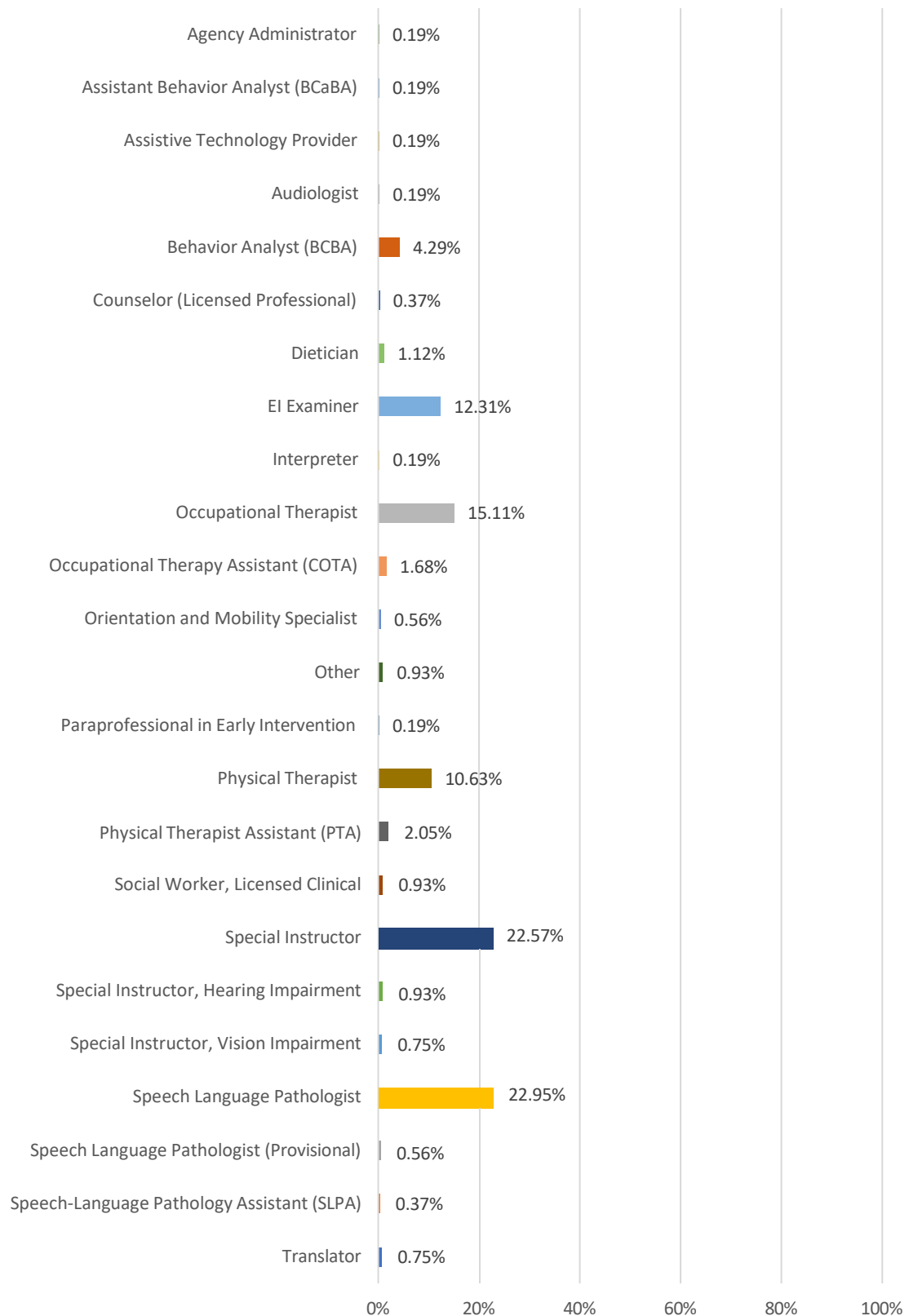
Answer Choices	Percentage of Total Responses	Response Count
DESE Provider Communication Messages in WebSPOE	24.66%	109
Early Intervention Team (EIT) Meeting	13.12%	58
Office of Childhood - Early Intervention Newsletter	23.76%	105
Service Coordinator	10.63%	47
SPOE Director	1.36%	6
Teaming Coordinator	2.71%	12
Other:	23.76%	105
Grand Total	100.00%	442



Answer Choices	Percentage of Total Responses	Response Count
SPOE 1	14.00%	62
SPOE 2	22.57%	100
SPOE 3	4.29%	19
SPOE 4	7.00%	31
SPOE 5	11.96%	53
SPOE 6	8.58%	38
SPOE 7	5.64%	25
SPOE 8	3.61%	16
SPOE 9	13.54%	60
SPOE 10	8.80%	39
Grand Total	100.00%	443

Q3. Provider Type/Discipline: (Check all that apply)

Answered: 438 Skipped: 6

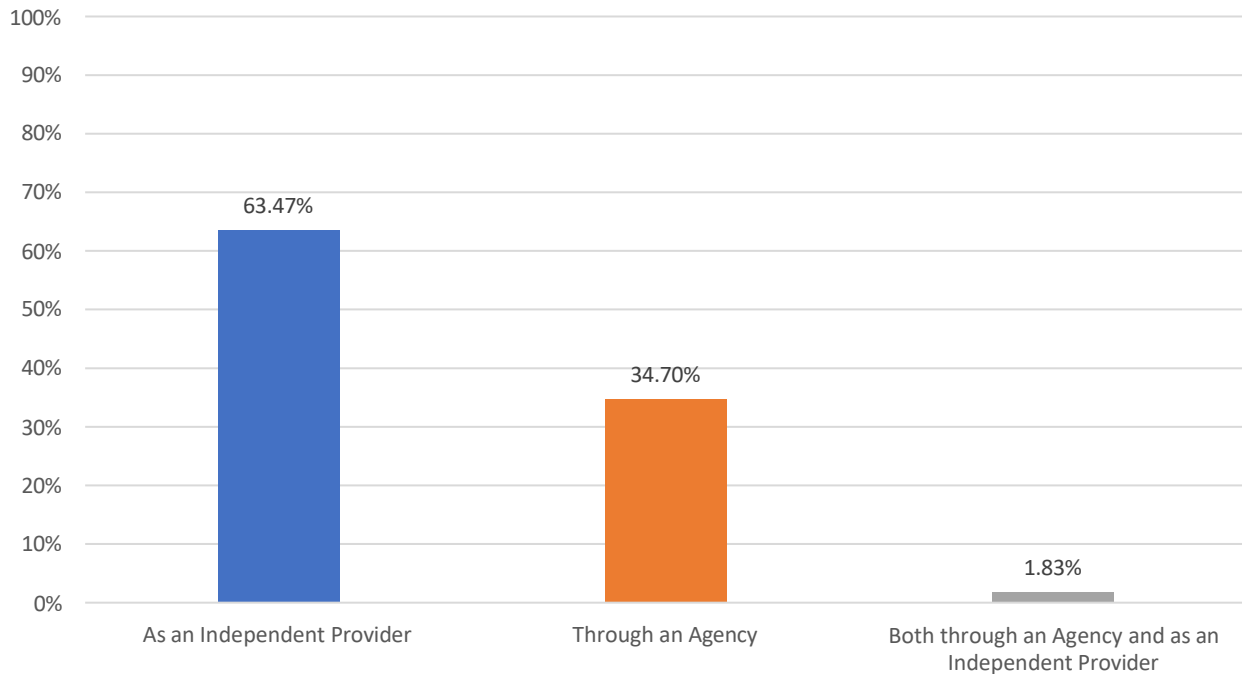


First Steps FY2025 Annual Provider Survey Report

Answer Choices	Percentage of Total Responses	Response Count
Agency Administrator	0.19%	1
Assistant Behavior Analyst (BCaBA)	0.19%	1
Assistive Technology Provider	0.19%	1
Audiologist	0.19%	1
Behavior Analyst (BCBA)	4.29%	23
Counselor (Licensed Professional)	0.37%	2
Dietician	1.12%	6
EI Examiner	12.31%	66
Interpreter	0.19%	1
Occupational Therapist	15.11%	81
Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA)	1.68%	9
Orientation and Mobility Specialist	0.56%	3
Paraprofessional in Early Intervention	0.19%	1
Physical Therapist	10.63%	57
Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA)	2.05%	11
Social Worker, Licensed Clinical	0.93%	5
Special Instructor	22.57%	121
Special Instructor, Hearing Impairment	0.93%	5
Special Instructor, Vision Impairment	0.75%	4
Speech Language Pathologist	22.95%	123
Speech Language Pathologist (Provisional)	0.56%	3
Speech-Language Pathology Assistant (SLPA)	0.37%	2
Translator	0.75%	4
Other	0.93%	5
Grand Total	100.00%	536

Q4. I provide First Steps Services: (Choose one from the list)

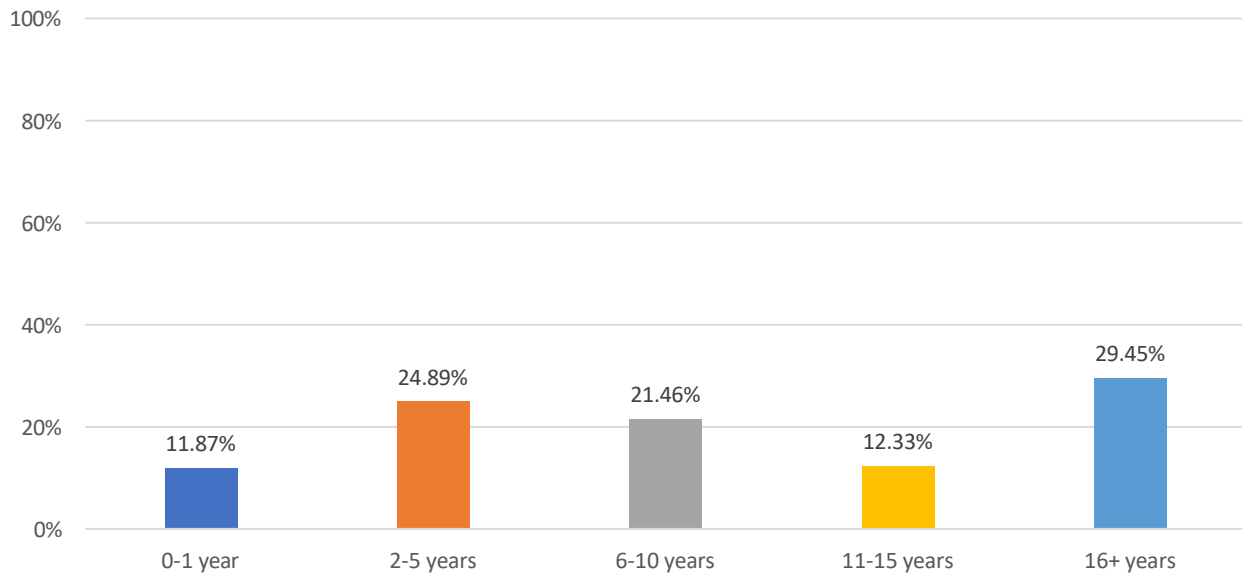
Answered: 438 Skipped: 6



Answer Choices	Percentage of Total Responses	Response Count
As an Independent Provider	63.47%	278
Through an Agency	34.70%	152
Both through an Agency and as an Independent Provider	1.83%	8
Grand Total	100.00%	438

Q5. I have provided First Steps services for: (Choose one from the list)

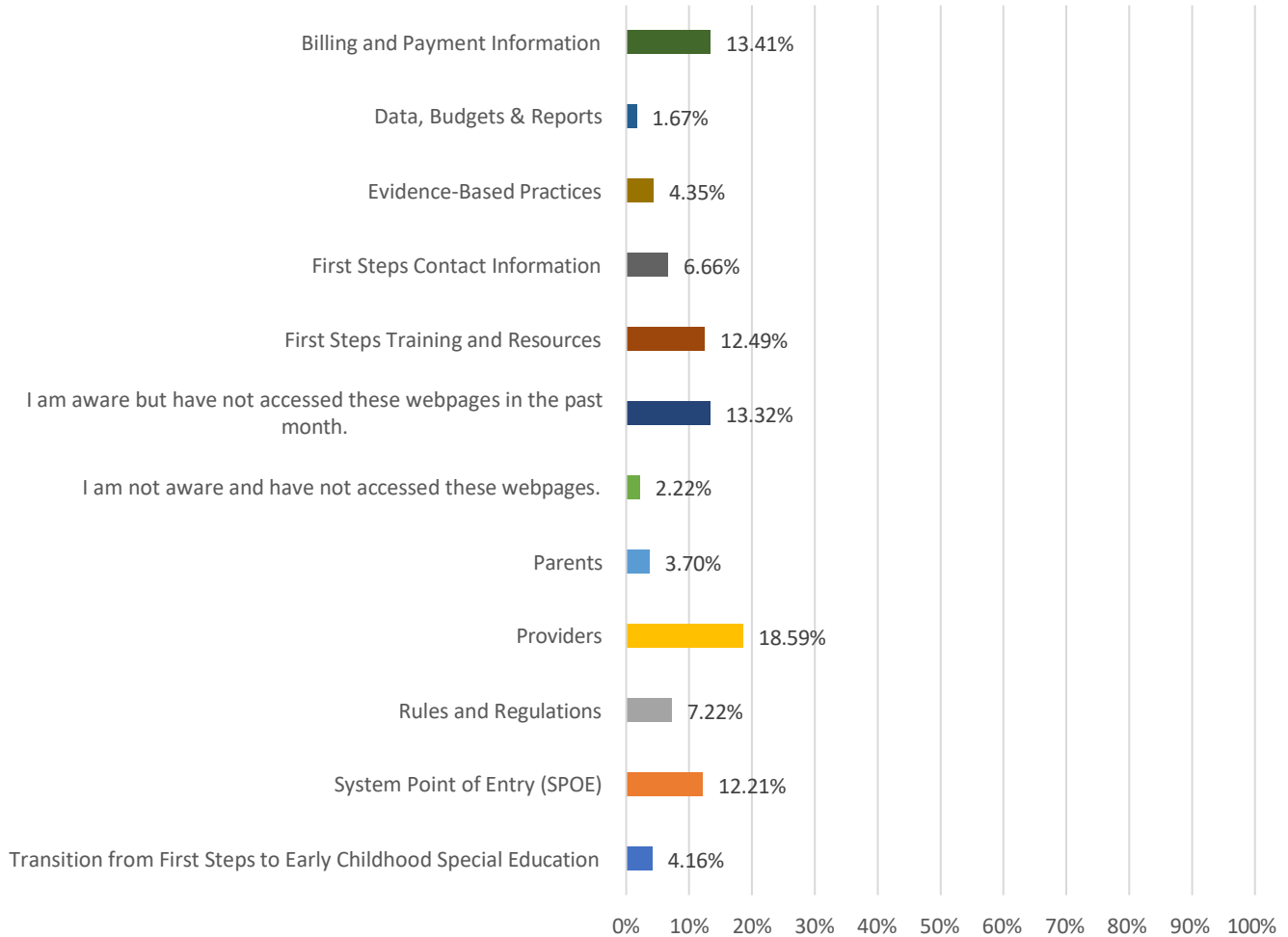
Answered: 438 Skipped: 6



Answer Choices	Percentage of Total Responses	Response Count
0-1 year	11.87%	52
2-5 years	24.89%	109
6-10 years	21.46%	94
11-15 years	12.33%	54
16+ years	29.45%	129
Grand Total	100.00%	438

Q6. I am aware of these DESE webpages and have accessed them in the last month. (Check all that apply)

Answered: 438 Skipped: 6



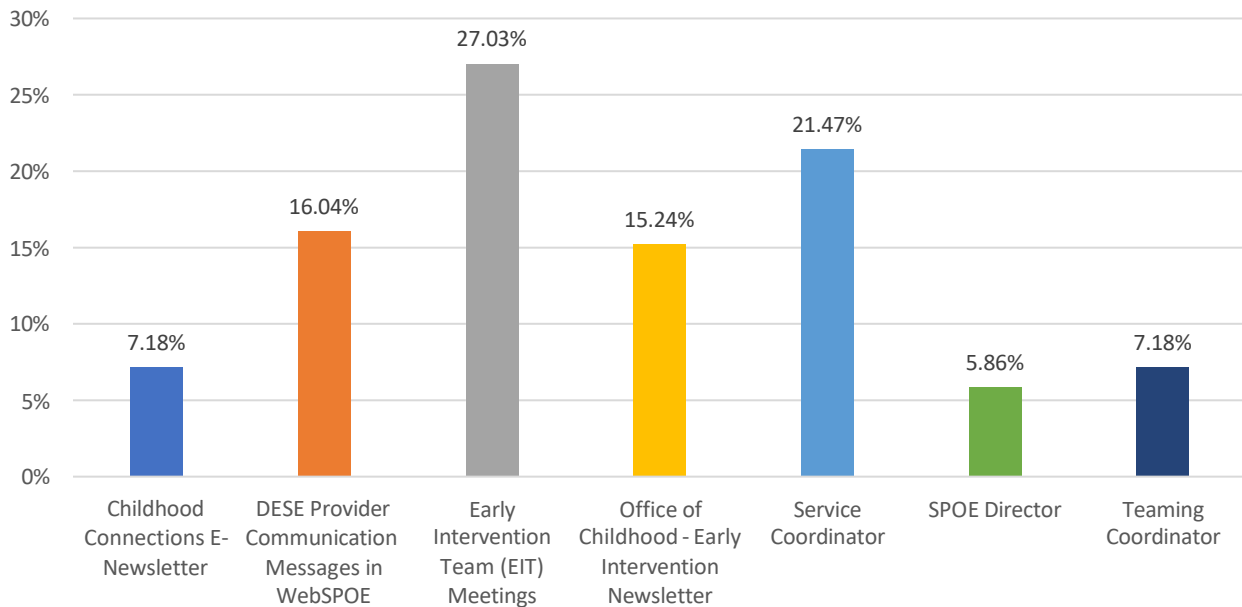
Answer Choices	Percentage of Total Responses	Response Count
Billing and Payment Information	13.41%	145
Data, Budgets & Reports	1.67%	18
Evidence-Based Practices	4.35%	47
First Steps Contact Information	6.66%	72
First Steps Training and Resources	12.49%	135
I am aware but have not accessed these webpages in the past month.	13.32%	144
I am not aware and have not accessed these webpages.	2.22%	24
Parents	3.70%	40

First Steps FY2025 Annual Provider Survey Report

Providers	18.59%	201
Rules and Regulations	7.22%	78
System Point of Entry (SPOE)	12.21%	132
Transition from First Steps to Early Childhood Special Education	4.16%	45
Grand Total	100.00%	1081

Q7. I stay informed about First Steps program updates in these ways: (Check all that apply)

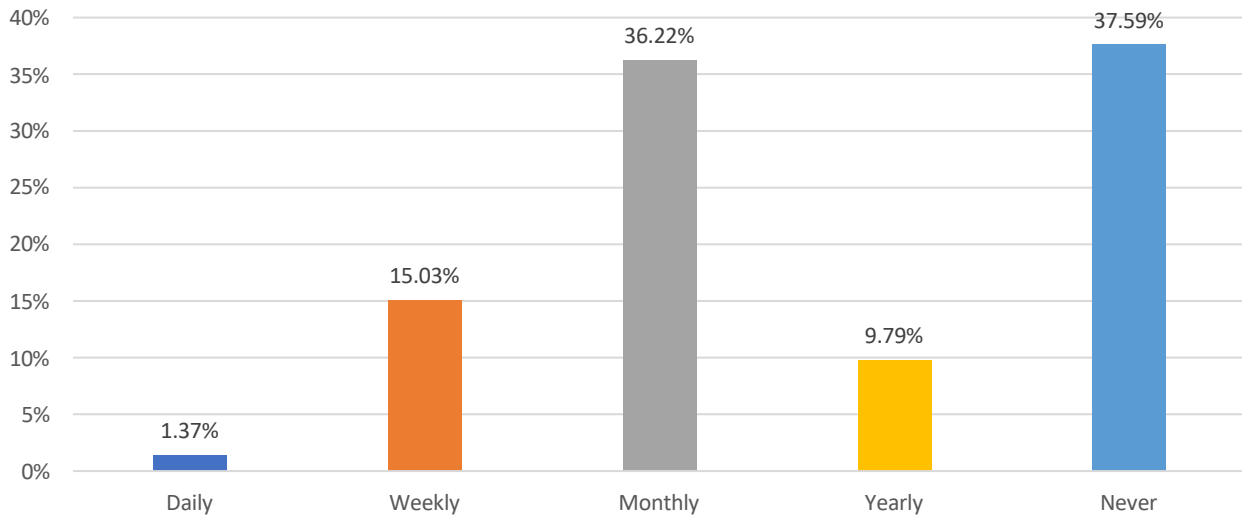
Answered: 436 Skipped: 8



Answer Choices	Percentage of Total Responses	Response Count
Childhood Connections E-Newsletter	7.18%	98
DESE Provider Communication Messages in WebSPOE	16.04%	219
Early Intervention Team (EIT) Meetings	27.03%	369
Office of Childhood - Early Intervention Newsletter	15.24%	208
Service Coordinator	21.47%	293
SPOE Director	5.86%	80
Teaming Coordinator	7.18%	98
Grand Total	100.00%	1365

Q8. I check the DESE Provider Communication Messages located in the WebSPOE Account Management menu:
(Choose one from the list)

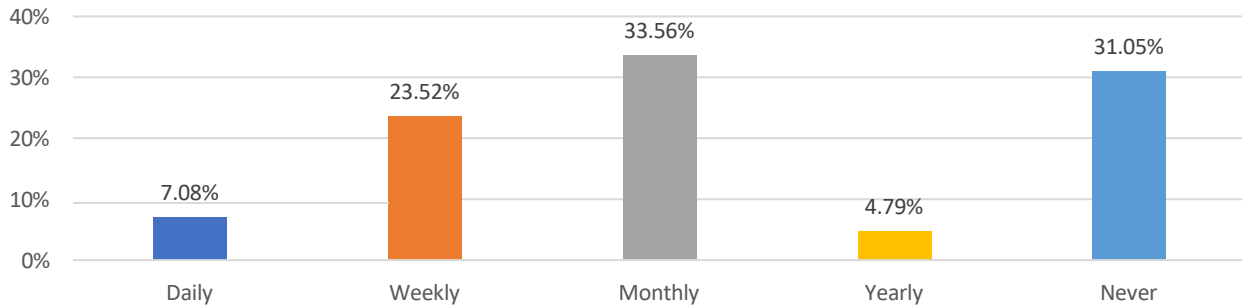
Answered: 439 Skipped: 5



Answer Choices	Percentage of Total Reponses	Response Count
Daily	1.37%	6
Weekly	15.03%	66
Monthly	36.22%	159
Yearly	9.79%	43
Never	37.59%	165
Grand Total	100.00%	439

Q9. I check the WebSPOE Message Center located on the home screen for information about authorizations and services: (Choose one from the list)

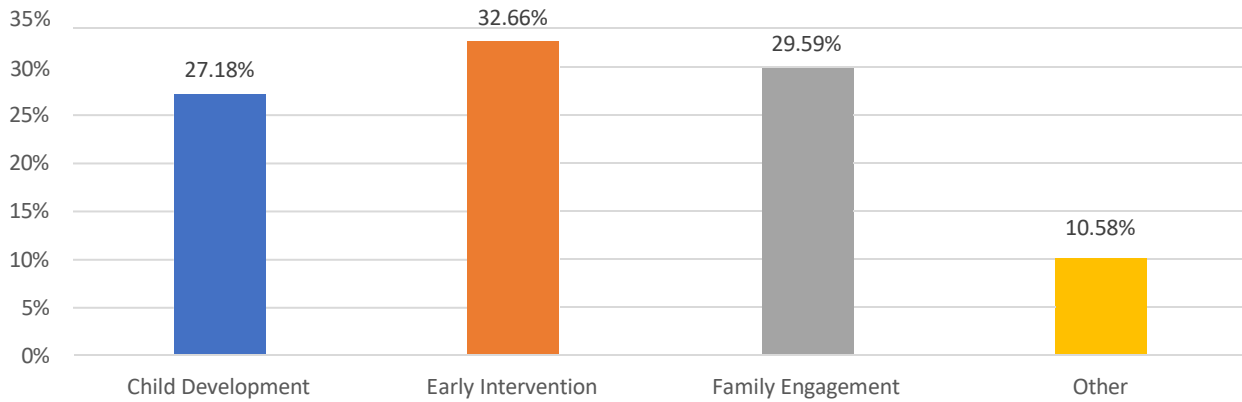
Answered: 438 Skipped: 6



Answer Choices	Percentage of Total Response	Response Count
Daily	7.08%	31
Weekly	23.52%	103
Monthly	33.56%	147
Yearly	4.79%	21
Never	31.05%	136
Grand Total	100.00%	438

Q10. I would like more training offerings and/or resources on the following topics: (Check all that apply)

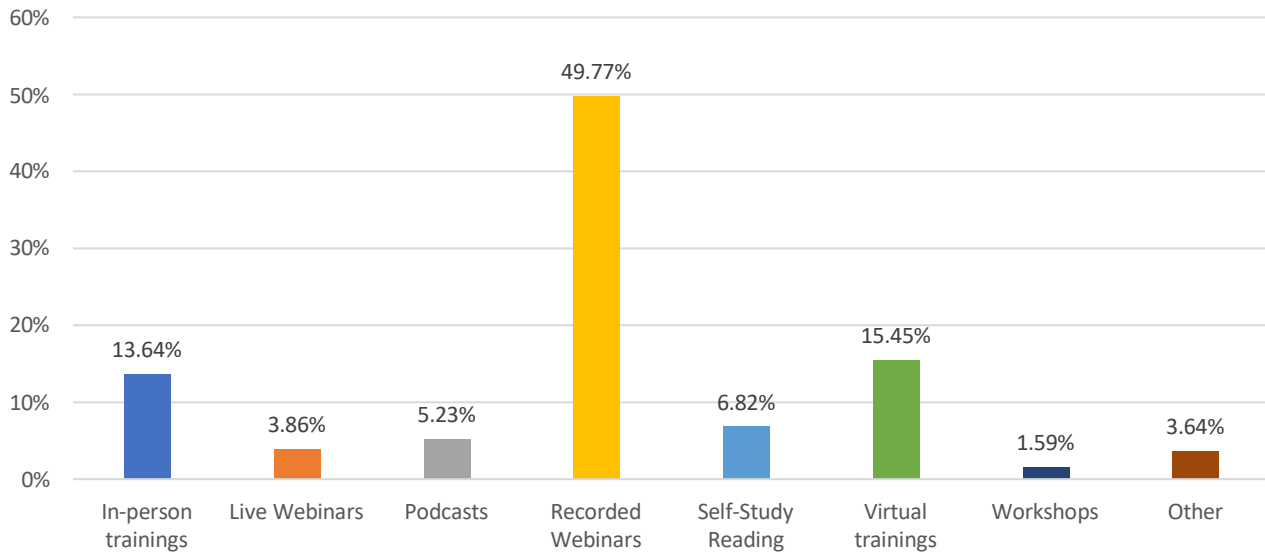
Answered: 394 Skipped: 50



Answer Choices	Percentage of Total Responses	Response Count
Child Development	27.18%	203
Early Intervention	32.66%	244
Family Engagement	29.59%	221
Other	10.58%	79
Grand Total	100.00%	747

Q11. I prefer to receive DESE First Steps trainings on required guidance via: (Choose one from the list)

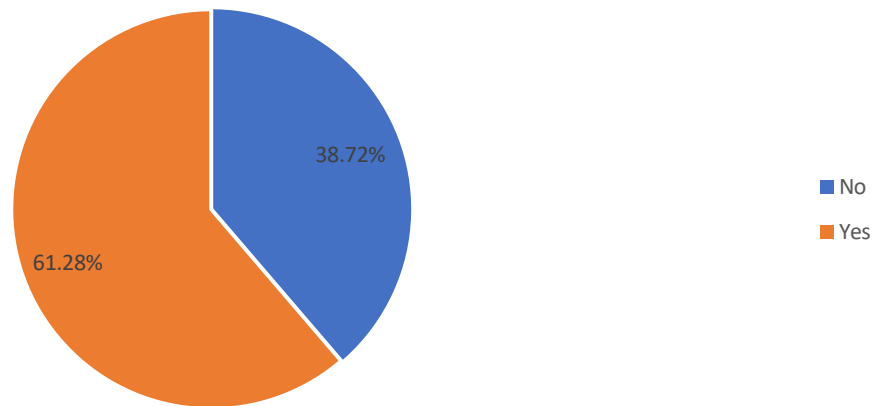
Answered: 440 Skipped: 4



Answer Choices	Percentage of Total Responses	Response Count
In-person trainings	13.64%	60
Live Webinars	3.86%	17
Podcasts	5.23%	23
Recorded Webinars	49.77%	219
Self-Study Reading	6.82%	30
Virtual trainings	15.45%	68
Workshops	1.59%	7
Other	3.64%	16
Grand Total	100.00%	440

Q12. I have accessed the DESE First Steps Training webpage. (Choose one from the list)

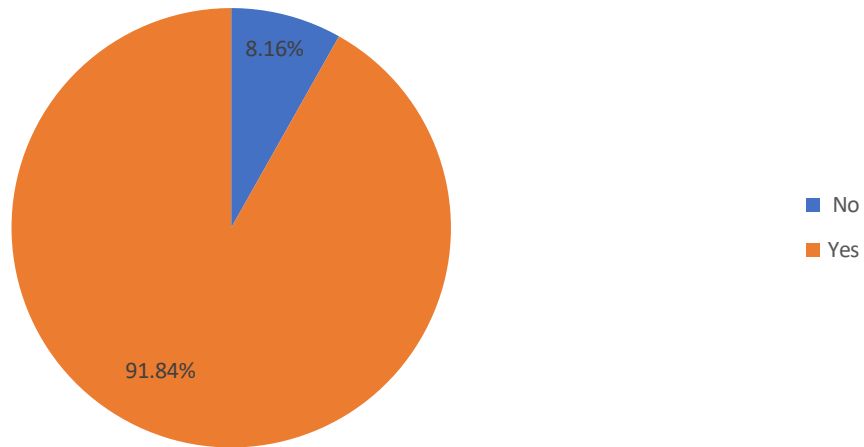
Answered: 439 Skipped: 5



Answer Choices	Percentage of Total Responses	Response Count
No	38.72%	170
Yes	61.28%	269
Grand Total	100.00%	439

Q13. I am a member of an Early Intervention Team (EIT). (Choose one from the list)

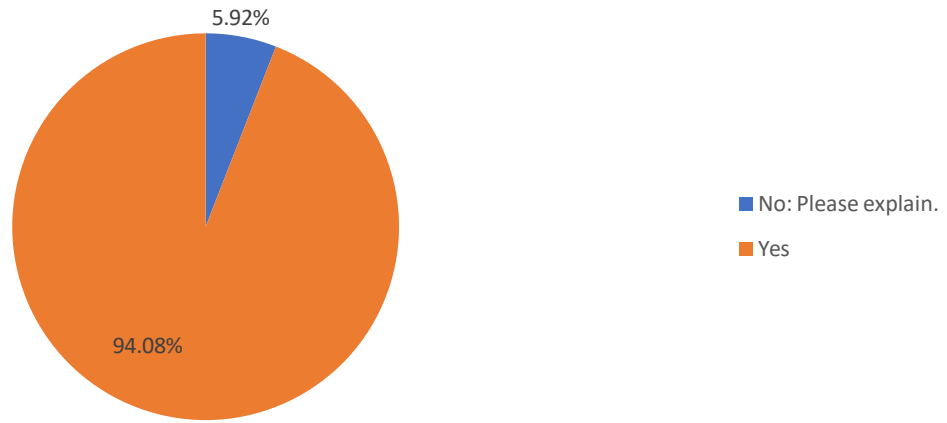
Answered: 441 Skipped: 3



Answer Choices	Percentage of Total Responses	Response Count
No	8.16%	36
Yes	91.84%	405
Grand Total	100.00%	441

Q14. Do you attend Family Assessment and/or IFSP meetings in any capacity? (check one)

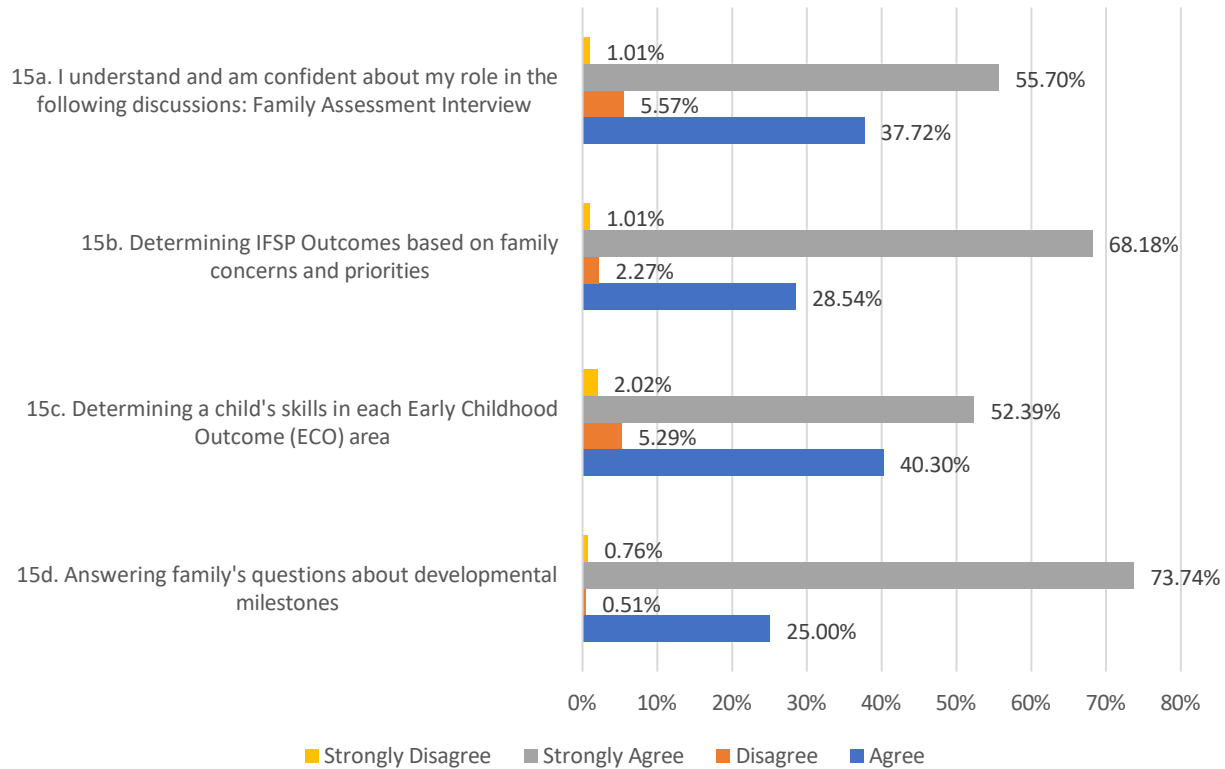
Answered: 439 Skipped: 5



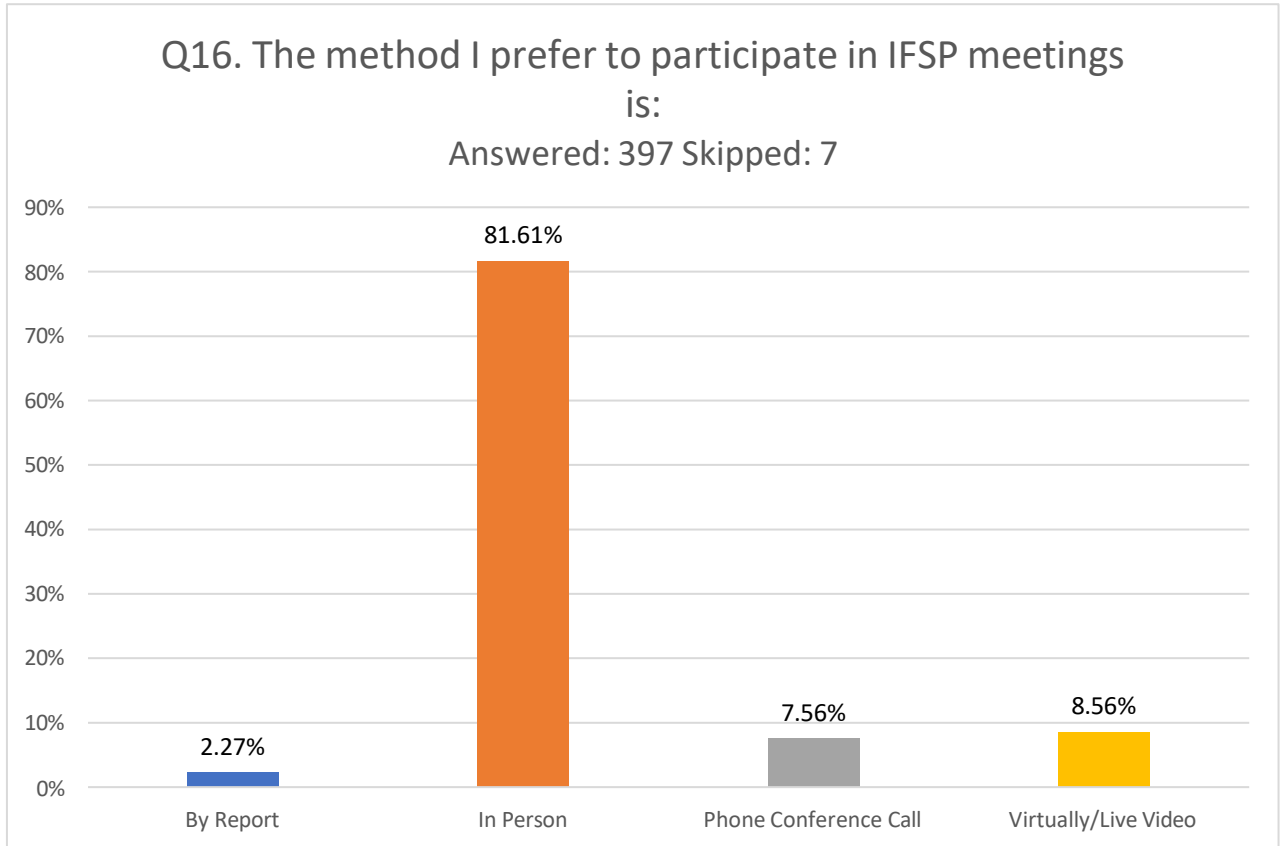
Answer Choices	Percentage of Total Responses	Response Count
No: Please explain.	5.92%	26
Yes	94.08%	413
Grand Total	100.00%	439

Q15. I understand and am confident about my role in the following discussions:

Answered: 397 Skipped: 47

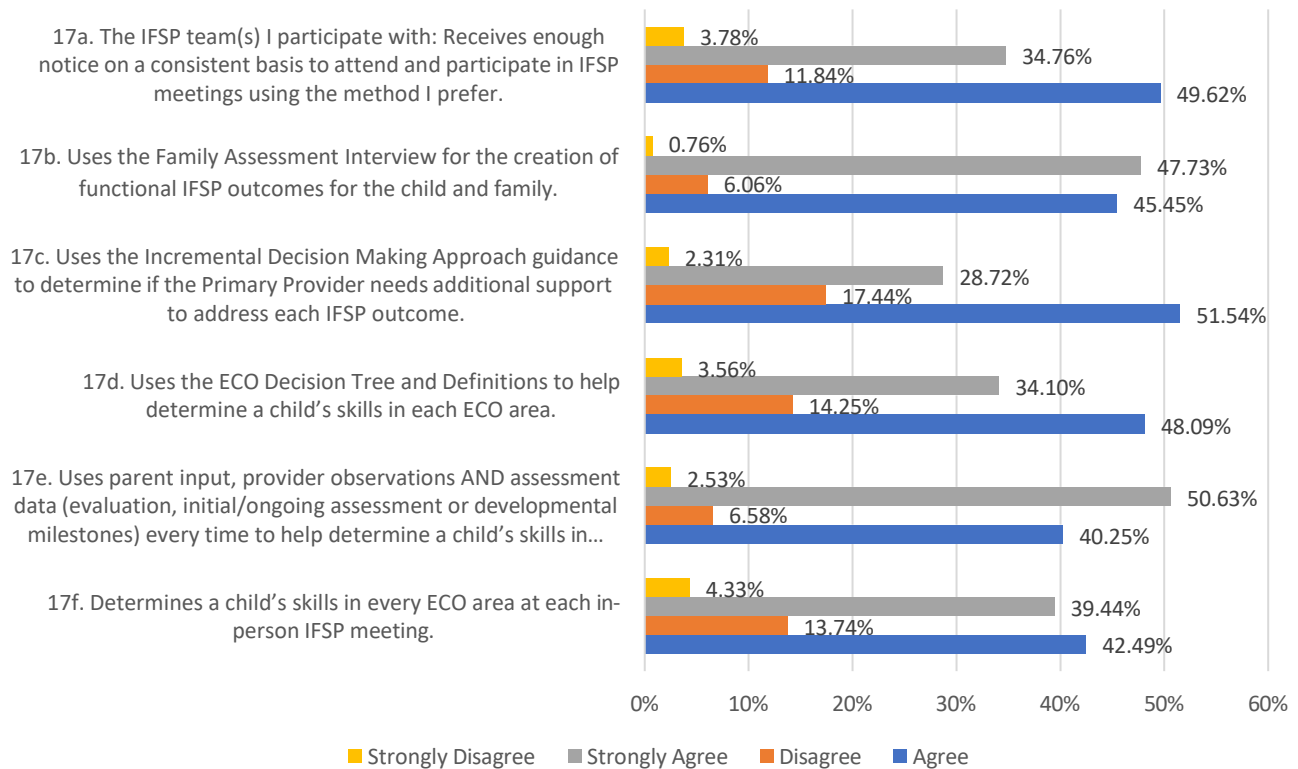


	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Agree	Strongly Disagree
15a. I understand and am confident about my role in the following discussions: Family Assessment Interview				
	37.72%	5.57%	55.70%	1.01%
	149	22	220	4
15b. Determining IFSP Outcomes based on family concerns and priorities				
	28.54%	2.27%	68.18%	1.01%
	113	9	270	4
15c. Determining a child's skills in each Early Childhood Outcome (ECO) area				
	40.30%	5.29%	52.39%	2.02%
	160	21	208	8
15d. Answering family's questions about developmental milestones				
	25.00%	0.51%	73.74%	0.76%
	99	2	292	3



Answer Choices	Percentage of Total Responses	Response Count
By Report	2.27%	9
In Person	81.61%	324
Phone Conference Call	7.56%	30
Virtually/Live Video	8.56%	34
Grand Total	100.00%	397

Q17. The IFSP team(s) I participate with:
Answered: 397 Skipped: 47



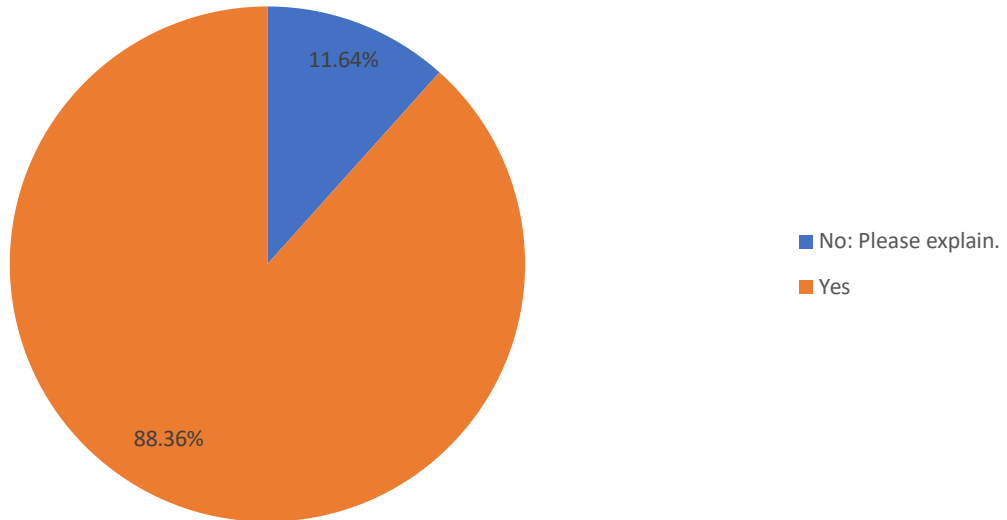
	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Agree	Strongly Disagree
17a. The IFSP team(s) I participate with: Receives enough notice on a consistent basis to attend and participate in IFSP meetings using the method I prefer.				
	49.62%	11.84%	34.76%	3.78%
	197	47	138	15
17b. Uses the Family Assessment Interview for the creation of functional IFSP outcomes for the child and family.				
	45.45%	6.06%	47.73%	0.76%
	180	24	189	3
17c. Uses the Incremental Decision Making Approach guidance to determine if the Primary Provider needs additional support to address each IFSP outcome.				
	51.54%	17.44%	28.72%	2.31%
	201	68	112	9
17d. Uses the ECO Decision Tree and Definitions to help determine a child's skills in each ECO area.				
	48.09%	14.25%	34.10%	3.56%
	189	56	134	14

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	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Agree	Strongly Disagree
17e. Uses parent input, provider observations AND assessment data (evaluation, initial/ongoing assessment or developmental milestones) every time to help determine a child's skills in each ECO area.				
	40.25%	6.58%	50.63%	2.53%
	159	26	200	10
17f. Determines a child's skills in every ECO area at each in-person IFSP meeting.				
	42.49%	13.74%	39.44%	4.33%
	167	54	155	17

Q18. Do you attend Early Intervention Team meetings in any capacity? (check one)

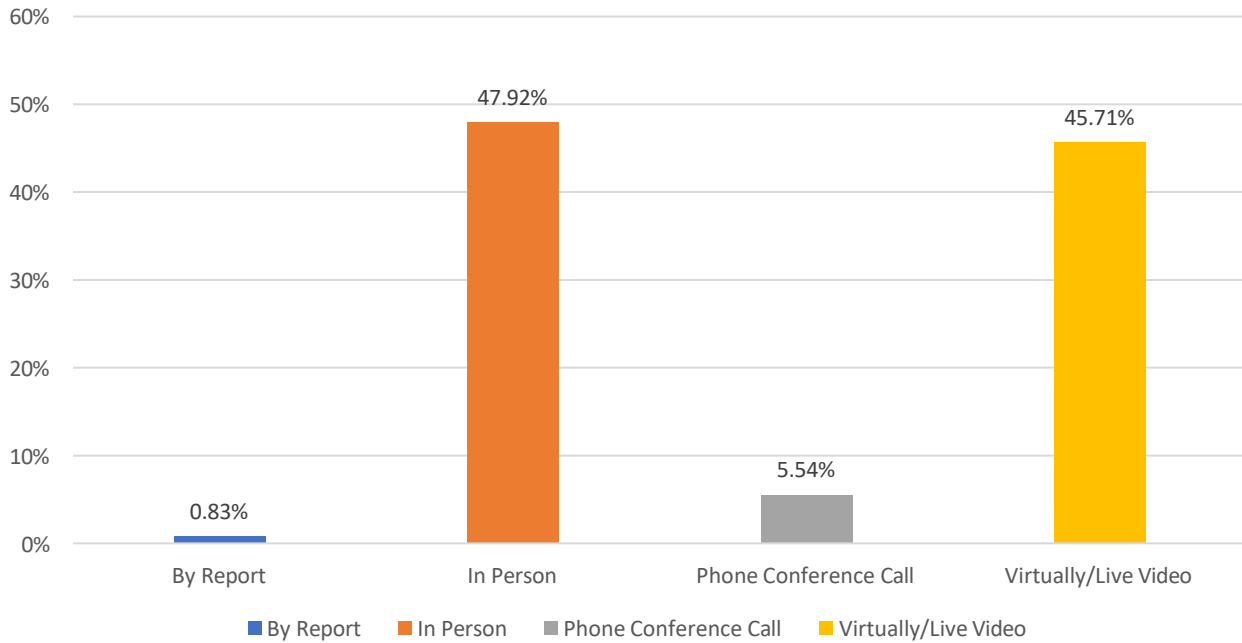
Answered: 421 Skipped: 23



Answer Choices	Percentage of Total Responses	Response Count
No: Please explain.	11.64%	49
Yes	88.36%	372
Grand Total	100.00%	421

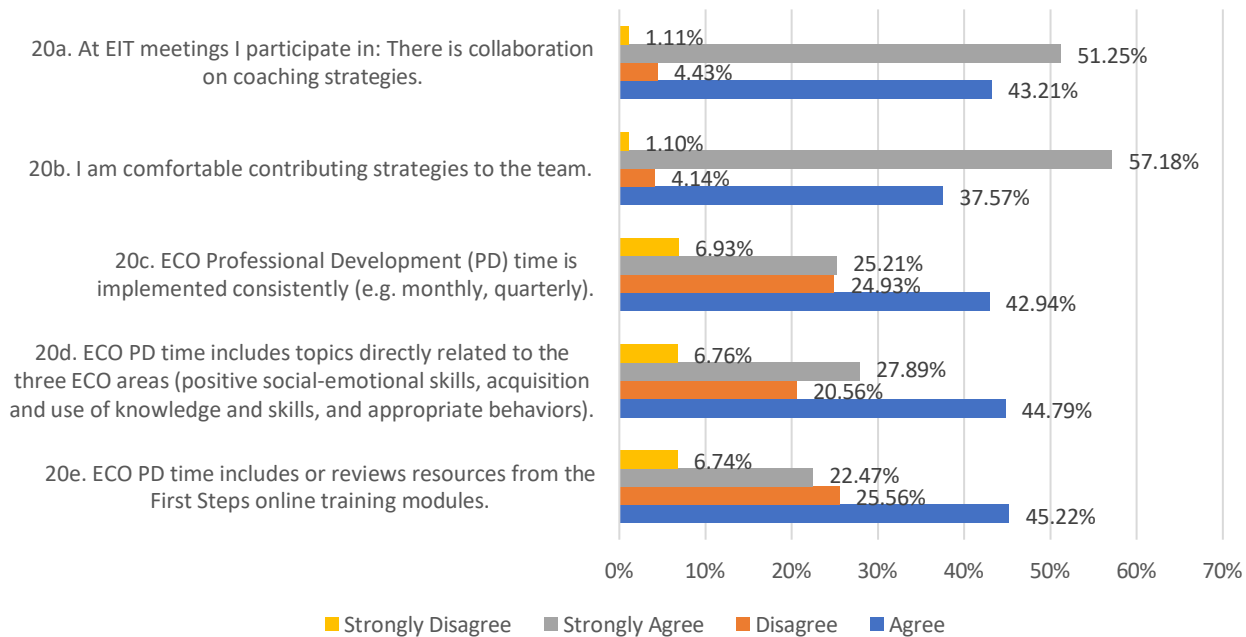
Q19. The method most often offered to participate in EIT meetings is:

Answered: 361 Skipped: 83



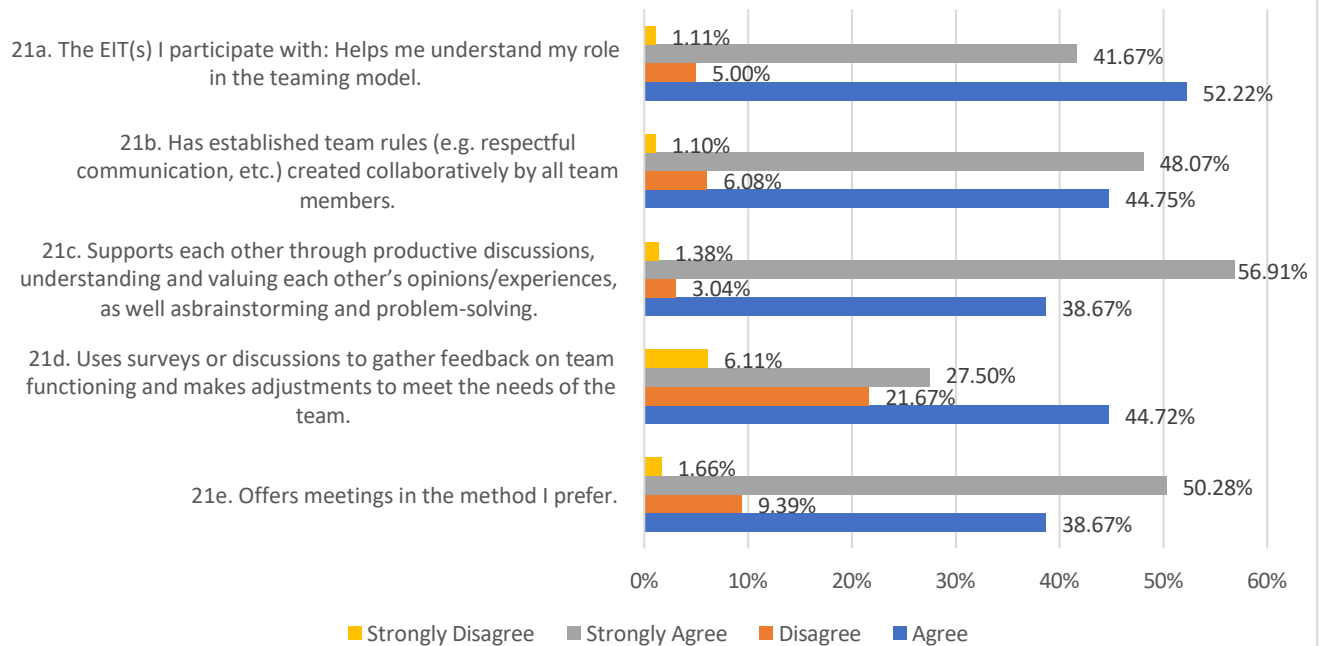
Answer Choices	Percentage of Total Responses	Response Count
By Report	0.83%	3
In Person	47.92%	173
Phone Conference Call	5.54%	20
Virtually/Live Video	45.71%	165
Grand Total	100.00%	361

Q20. At EIT meetings I participate in:
Answered: 362 Skipped: 82



	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Agree	Strongly Disagree
20a. At EIT meetings I participate in: There is collaboration on coaching strategies.				
	43.21%	4.43%	51.25%	1.11%
	156	16	185	4
20b. I am comfortable contributing strategies to the team.				
	37.57%	4.14%	57.18%	1.10%
	136	15	207	4
20c. ECO Professional Development (PD) time is implemented consistently (e.g. monthly, quarterly).				
	42.94%	24.93%	25.21%	6.93%
	155	90	91	25
20d. ECO PD time includes topics directly related to the three ECO areas (positive social-emotional skills, acquisition and use of knowledge and skills, and appropriate behaviors).				
	44.79%	20.56%	27.89%	6.76%
	159	73	99	24
20e. ECO PD time includes or reviews resources from the First Steps online training modules.				
	45.22%	25.56%	22.47%	6.74%
	161	91	80	24

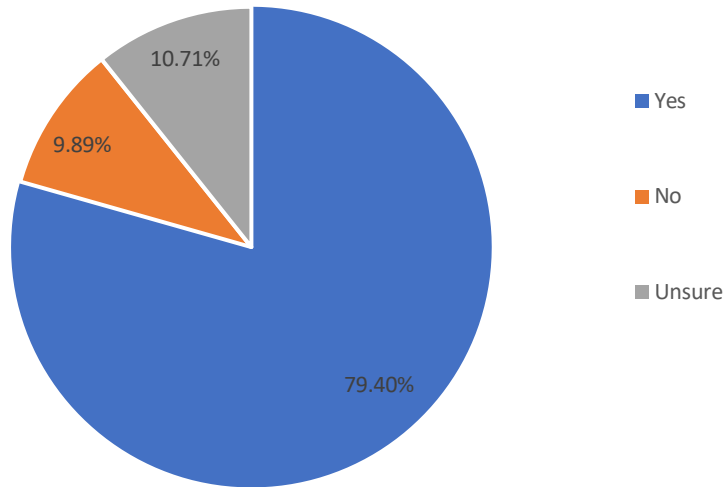
Q21. The EIT(s) I participate with: Answered: 362 Skipped: 82



	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Agree	Strongly Disagree
21a. The EIT(s) I participate with: Helps me understand my role in the teaming model.				
	52.22%	5.00%	41.67%	1.11%
	188	18	150	4
21b. Has established team rules (e.g. respectful communication, etc.) created collaboratively by all team members.				
	44.75%	6.08%	48.07%	1.10%
	162	22	174	4
21c. Supports each other through productive discussions, understanding and valuing each other's opinions/experiences, as well as brainstorming and problem-solving.				
	38.67%	3.04%	56.91%	1.38%
	140	11	206	5
21d. Uses surveys or discussions to gather feedback on team functioning and makes adjustments to meet the needs of the team.				
	44.72%	21.67%	27.50%	6.11%
	161	78	99	22
21e. Offers meetings in the method I prefer.				
	38.67%	9.39%	50.28%	1.66%
	140	34	182	6

Q22. I have met my SPOE region's Teaming Coordinator: (Choose one from this list)

Answered: 364 Skipped: 80



Answer Choices	Percentage of Total Responses	Response Count
Yes	79.40%	289
No	9.89%	36
Unsure	10.71%	39
Grand Total	100.00%	364